

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical pickup with a simple configuration can be provided, by which an amount of astigmatism generated by a temperature change can be suppressed, recording and reproducing qualities can be maintained stably and its light efficiency can be enhanced. The optical pickup includes a mirror that is secured to a supporter so as to generate astigmatism due to deformation caused by a temperature change. This deformation caused by the temperature change is generated due to a difference in linear expansion coefficient between the mirror that generates the astigmatism and the supporter. This astigmatism is equal in size and is opposite in polarity to astigmatism that occurs when the parallel light passes through the beam shaping element. Here, the parallel light has a phase distribution generated by a difference between: (a) an amount of a change in optical path length between a luminous point of the light source and a principal point of the collimator lens, which results from thermal expansion or thermal contraction of a structure including the light source and the collimator lens due to the temperature change; and (b) an amount of a change in focal length of the collimator lens.